

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A cash dispensing automated banking machine comprising:

a chest;

5 a cash dispenser in operative connection with the chest;

a frame in operative connection with the chest;

at least one side panel slidably connectable with the frame;

at least one top panel slidably connectable with the frame; and

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at least one door in operative connection with the frame, wherein the door is movable between an open position and a closed position, wherein when the door is in the closed position, the door is operative to block the top panel from sliding out of connection with the frame, wherein when the door is in the open position, the top panel is operative to

slide out of connection with the frame, wherein when the top panel is in operative connection with the frame, the top panel is operative to block the at least one side panel from sliding out of connection with the frame, wherein when the top panel is out of connection with the frame, the at least one side panel is operative to slide out of connection with the frame.

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2. The machine according to claim 1, wherein the frame includes a plurality of vertical struts which extend upwardly from the chest and at least one horizontal strut, wherein the at least one horizontal strut is in operative connection with upper ends of at least two vertical struts.

3. The machine according to claim 2, wherein the at least one top panel is operative to slidably engage the at least one horizontal strut.

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4. The machine according to claim 2, wherein the at least one side panel is operative to slidably engage at least two vertical struts.

5. The machine according to claim 2, wherein the frame includes at least four vertical struts orientated to form a generally rectangular shaped frame, wherein the frame includes at least one diagonal horizontal strut which extends diagonally between the upper ends of at least two of the vertical struts.

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6. The machine according to claim 1 wherein one of the at least one side panel or the frame includes projections which are operative to slide within slots of the other of the at least one side panel or the frame.

7. The machine according to claim 1 wherein the one of the at least one top panel or the
5 frame includes projections which are operative to slide within slots of the other of the at least one top panel or the frame.

8. The machine according to claim 2, wherein the vertical struts include outwardly extending ridges which provide channels between the vertical struts and the at least one side panel, wherein at least one of a cable and electrical line is mounted within the channel.

10 9. The machine according to claim 8, wherein the vertical struts include at least one aperture therethrough, wherein the at least one of a cable and electrical line extends through the at least one aperture.

10. The machine according to claim 9, wherein the vertical struts include at least one cable retainer, wherein the cable retainer includes a curved finger which at least partially surrounds the
15 at least one of the cable and electrical line.

11. A method comprising:

- a) mounting at least one side panel to a frame of an automated banking machine, wherein the automated banking machine includes a cash dispenser, wherein the at least one side panel is in independent removable connection with the frame;
- 5 b) after (a), mounting at least one top panel to the frame of the automated banking machine, wherein the at least one top panel is operative to prevent the at least one side panel from being removed from the frame, wherein the at least one top panel is in independent removable connection with the frame; and
- c) after (b), closing a door of the automated banking machine, where the door is
10 operative to prevent the at least one top panel from being removed from the frame.

12. The method according to claim 11, further comprising:

- d) opening the door, wherein the at least one top panel is enabled to be removed responsive to the door being opened;
- e) removing the at least one top panel, wherein the at least one side panel is enabled
15 to be removed responsive to the at least one top panel being removed; and

f) removing the at least one side panel.

13. The method according to claim 12, wherein step (a) includes:

g) mounting at least one lower side panel to the frame, wherein the at least one lower side panel is in independent removable connection with the frame;

5 h) after (g), mounting at least one upper side panel to the frame, wherein the upper side panel is operative to prevent the at least one lower side panel from being removed from the frame, wherein the at least one upper side panel is in independent removable connection with the frame;

10 wherein in (b) the at least one top panel is operative to prevent the at least one upper side panel from being removed from the frame.